

# Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade  
November 15, 2010  
[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates

Nov. 17 Community Chat with Dr. Roberts  
Nov. 19 Math Test  
Nov. 22 Book Report Due  
Nov. 23 Reading Olympics - Round 1  
Nov. 24 Institute Day - No School  
Nov. 25-26 Thanksgiving Break - No School

## Dear Families,

Our Outdoor Education field trip to Camp Algonquin last week was a great success! Thank you to all of the parent chaperones who took time out of their busy schedules to assist in this lofty endeavor. We could not have done this trip without you! If you have any input about how we could improve the experience next year, please email your child's homeroom teacher.

Dr. Roberts will be at Holmes School on November 17th at 7:00pm for a Community Chat. Please come if you haven't had the opportunity to meet Dr. Roberts or have questions you'd like to discuss with him.

As the weather gets colder, please remember to label all clothing items (coats, hats, gloves, boots, scarves) with your child's name so that we may return the items to them if they get lost.

## SPECIALS

### Music

Students will be using recorders this week in music. Please make sure your child brings his/her recorder to school or purchases a new one from me for 5 dollars.

### Chorus

Congratulations to the chorus for a wonderful performance at International Night! Information on the chorus' main concert will be coming soon.

### Spanish

This week students began a new story, *El Muchacho Pastor*. Students read this story to someone for 10 extra points. Find the link on the Spanish blog: <http://mpoleski.blogspot.com/p/quintofifth.html>

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack**  
<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>



### Reading/Literature

The Open Court story this week is McBroom the Rainmaker. We will focus on cause and effect in workshop. Ms. Goodman will be teaching a lesson on similes on Monday. Book reports are due November 22nd. The book report assignment sheet is on the 5th grade reading wiki if your students does not have a copy with them.

### Math

This week we will work on converting fractions to decimals and percents and we will also review mixed numbers and improper fractions. We will have a unit test on Friday. The test will cover comparing fractions, finding equivalent fractions, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers, adding fractions (using fraction sticks) and finding the decimal and percent equivalents for fractions. We will review in class on Thursday and students will be given a review sheet to help them study.

### Science

Last week the students learned that the variable of length does make a difference on how many time a pendulum will swing in 15 seconds. This week we will be wrapping up our pendulum investigation and moving on to investigating lifeboats.

### Social Studies

If your child did not turn in the explorer research project last week due to an absence, please make sure it is turned in this week.

We are finishing up our study of the French fur trade in North America on Monday and will begin exploring how geography determined industry in New England and in the Middle and Southern Colonies.

### We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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